



# Appendix 1 - 2025 Canadian Championships 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures

## Short Track Speed Skating

### Important notes:

- a) You'll also find the same information in this appendix inside Master Bulletin 2025-26 when it is published in early summer 2025.
  
- b) This 2026 Olympic Selection Policy and Procedures document was originally written in French and has been translated into English. In the event of a discrepancy between the English and French versions, the French version will be used to understand the intended wording of the provision(s) in question. Should such a situation arise, Speed Skating Canada will ensure that any discrepancy is corrected as soon as possible and will assist anyone affected in resolving the issue.

July 18, 2025

A small update was made on the title of **Section 1.3.1** to better reflect the content and process listed in that section.

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## 1.1 Location and Dates of the 2025 Canadian Championships

National Training Centre  
Aréna Maurice-Richard  
Montreal, Quebec

## 1.2 2025 Canadian Championships Schedule

Date	Races
August 23, 2025	500 m (1) quarterfinals / semifinals / final 1500 m (1) semifinals / final
August 24, 2025	1000 m (1) quarterfinals / semifinals / final 1500 m (2) semifinals / finals
August 27, 2025	500 m (2) quarterfinals / semifinals / final 1000 m (2) quarterfinals / semifinals / final
August 30, 2025	1000 m (3) quarterfinals / semifinals / final
August 31, 2025	1500 m (3) semifinals / final 500 m (3) quarterfinals / semifinals / final

## 1.3 2025 Canadian Championships Format

### 1.3.1 Qualification and Pre-ranking (Seeding) Criteria for the 2025 Canadian Championships

The process for qualifying for the event is presented in sub-sections A to E, and the process for pre-rankings (seeding) for the 3 distances (500m - 1000m -1500m) is presented in sub-sections F, G and H:

- A. The top 8 positions will be awarded to members of the 2025-2026 National Team (based on the final 2024-2025 senior national ranking), according to the following priorities:
  - Priority 1: Individual skaters' results at the 2025 World Championships.
  - Priority 2: Members of the relay team at the 2025 World Championships based on the discretionary relay selections by the National Team coach.
  - Priority 3: Most recent senior national ranking available.
- B. All eligible and approved requests for a Bye and reclassification according to the following eligibility criteria:
  - An athlete who participated in the last 2022 Olympic Games OR skated in an individual distance at the World Championships in the last two seasons OR an athlete who skated in an individual A Final on the World Cup/World Tour in the last two seasons.
  - In the case of a long-term injury, an athlete who was ranked on the NT-A or NG-A team the previous season AND who was unable to take part in at least one competition for the national ranking may request a Bye, provided that a full return to training and competition is validated by the National Team doctor.
- C. The top 2 skaters per gender in the 2025-2026 NG-A national group (based on the final 2024-25

senior national ranking).

- D. The next skaters in the national senior ranking 2024-2025 by gender up to rank 18<sup>th</sup>.
- E. For the last 2 pre-ranking positions: 2 special invitations (maximum) for skaters of international calibre without a national senior ranking 2024-2025 in the top 20,  
OR  
If there are no invitations or only one invitation, the next skater(s) in the senior national ranking 2024-2025 per gender up to a maximum of 20 participants per gender.
- F. The pre-ranking for the first round of the 500 m (1), 1000 m (1), and 1500 m (1) events will be determined by the following calculation for each of the 3 distances:
- (i) The top 8 positions will be awarded to members of the 2025-2026 National Team and in the order of qualification criterion A / Priorities 1 and 3) above, by distance.
  - (ii) For positions 9 to 20, athletes will be pre-ranked according to the final ranking per distance of the 2024-2025 season
  - (iii) For any athlete who qualifies following a Bye request, the repositioning process for pre-ranking by distance will be used.
- G. The pre-ranking for the first round of the 500 m (2), 1000 m (2) and 1500 m (2) events will be determined by the following calculation:
- (iv) For example, for the 500m-2, the sum of the points of the 500m-1 results from the current competition AND the pre-ranking points from the 1st round of the 500m-1 (and not the ranking position).
  - (v) In the event of a tie in this calculation, the athlete with the better event ranking from the first event in the respective distance will get a better pre-ranking for the first round of the second event in the distance.
- H. Pre-ranking for the first round of the 500 m (3), 1000 m (3) and 1500 m (3) events will be determined by calculating the average of:
- (i) the event ranking of the athlete's first event in each respective distance, and
  - (ii) the event ranking of the athlete's second event in each respective distance. In the event of a tie in this calculation, the athlete with the best time in that specific distance will obtain a better pre-ranking.
- For example: if an athlete has finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the 500 m (1) and 8<sup>th</sup> in the 500 m (2), his average pre-ranking for the 500 m (3) would be calculated as 6. This score is then ranked against the other athletes to determine the pre-ranking for the first round of the 500 m (3) event.

## 1.3.2 Race Format

### 1500 m

**Semifinals Format (1500 m):** 3 Qualifying Waves 7-7-6

Distance Seeding 1500m	Semifinals Heats		
	A	B	C
	1	2	3
	6	5	4
	7	8	9
	12	11	10
	13	14	15
	18	17	16
	19	20	

*If there are fewer than 20 skaters at the start, the Chairman of the HPAC-ST will consult with the members of the SSC Olympic Selection Committee - Short Track present to determine the most appropriate number of races to ensure the most equitable racing conditions.*

### Finals Format (1500 m)

- Final A: The top two skaters from each semi-final, and up to a maximum of one skater with the fastest third-place time will qualify for the A final.
- Final B: The skaters finishing in third and fourth place from each semi-final and up to a maximum of two skaters with the fastest fifth-place times will qualify for the B final.
- Final C: The remaining skaters from semifinals A, B and C.

### 500 m and 1000 m

**Quarterfinals Format:** 4 heats of 5 skaters

Distance Seedings	Quarter-finals : 4 Heats			
	A	B	C	D
	1	2	3	4
	8	7	6	5
	9	10	11	12
	16	15	14	13
	17	18	19	20

### Semi-finals Format: 4 heats of 5 skaters

- Semi-finals A and B: The top two skaters from each quarterfinal, and up to a maximum of two skaters with the fastest third-place times will qualify for semifinals A and B.
- Semi-finals C and D: The remaining skaters from quarterfinals A, B, C and D.

Ranks from quarter-finals	Semi-finals : 4 Heats			
	A	B	C	D
	1	2	11	12
	4	3	14	13
	5	6	15	16
	8	7	18	17
9	10	19	20	

### Finals Format: 4 heats of 5 skaters

- Final A: The top two skaters from semifinals A and B and up to a maximum of one skater with the fastest third-place time will qualify for final A.
- Final B: The remaining skaters from semifinals A and B.
- Final C: The top two skaters from semifinals C and D and up to a maximum of one skater with the fastest third-place time will qualify for final C.
- Final D: The remaining skaters from semifinals C and D.

Ranks from Semi-finals 500m	Finals : 4 Heats			
	A	B	C	D
	1	6	11	16
	2	7	12	17
	3	8	13	18
	4	9	14	19
5	10	15	20	

### For All Distances (1500 m-500 m-1000 m):

Ties will be broken by referring to the times obtained in the quarterfinals; the holder of the best time among skaters with the same number of points will obtain the best pre-ranking and so on. If a tie persists, it will be broken by a coin toss.

The remaining athletes from each of the 4 quarterfinals will be placed in the next 2 semifinals (C, D; final ranking 9 to 16) based on a ranking derived from ISU competition points obtained in the quarterfinals. Ties will be broken by referring to the times obtained in the quarterfinals; the holder of the best time among skaters with the same number of points will obtain the best pre-ranking and so on. If a tie persists, it will be broken by a coin toss.

### 1.3.3 Special Rules for Races

Penalties, failure to finish the race, withdrawals:

In the event of a penalty, failure to complete the race due to an infraction or withdrawal, the following rules will apply:

1. Penalized skaters will receive the last place ranking and pre-ranking points in their race. The skater will not be allowed to skate in a subsequent round of the event.
2. Skaters will be seeded, but not allowed to skate in the applicable final for the event, as if they had progressed in previous rounds by placing last in each race and will receive last-place points for that final behind any skater penalized in that final. Skaters who withdraw before a race will receive the last-place ranking, behind skaters who may subsequently fail to finish due to an infraction or penalty and will receive pre-ranking points according to the final ranking in that event.
3. Skaters who withdraw before an event will not receive any ranking points for that event, and a new ranking will be issued for that event.
4. Skaters who withdraw from an event due to illness or injury may continue in the competition for subsequent distances or events.
5. A skater who has not completed his race because of an infraction by another skater will receive his position in front of penalized skaters.
6. A skater who does not finish a race will not be able to start in the next round of that event or distance unless an advancement is granted according to the following only possible case: *if the skater is in position 1 or 2 and there is an infraction on him/her (e.g.: falls but returns to the centre during the race, so the referee does not make a stop for him/her) then the referee can declare the race as being "not completed" for that skater and advance him/her to the next round.*
7. When a skater is unable to complete a race due to equipment failure during a race, this must be reported to and verified by the referee immediately after the race in which the equipment failure occurred. The skater will be placed in the lowest section/group of the next round and may continue in that event.
8. Advancement will follow ISU World Tour procedures. In short, advanced skaters will receive pre-ranking points based on their placing in the race from which they were advanced and will be pre-ranked in the next round based on those pre-ranking points. Advanced skaters will not be pre-ranked in any specific order; rather, their ranking from the previous round will determine which race they will be placed in for the subsequent round.
9. A skater advanced by the decision of the referee will take the place of a skater advanced by time.
10. Note: Lane positions for the first round of each event will be determined according to rule 293.7 of the ISU [SPEED SKATING and SHORT TRACK SPEED SKATING SPECIAL RULES AND TECHNICAL RULES](#) as accepted by the 59<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Congress in June 2024.

*Note: For starting line position, time qualifiers for semifinals and finals as well as advanced skaters cannot be positioned ahead of direct position qualifiers (from the previous race).*

11. Races with only one skater will not take place.

### 1.3.4 Distance Points for the 2025 Canadian Championships

To obtain a distance ranking in a specific distance, athletes must take part in all three events of the specific distance \*: 500 m, 1000 m, 1500 m. Athletes will receive ranking points according to the table below for each of the three distances per events.

\*Unless medically withdrawn during the competition, as assessed by the competition medical team.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Points</b>		<b>Rank</b>	<b>Points</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>5000</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>968</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>4000</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>871</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>3200</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>784</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>2560</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>706</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>2048</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>1639</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>572</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>1475</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>514</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>1327</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>463</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>1195</b>		<b>19</b>	<b>417</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>1075</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>375</b>